

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ATV comprising:

a frame;

only four wheels suspended from the frame, two of which are rear wheels and two of which are front wheels, the front wheels defining a front axis and the rear wheels defining a rear axis, the front axis and the rear axis defining a wheelbase between 52 to 72 inches, and each of the wheels includes an ATV-type tire;

a power unit for driving at least one of the wheels disposed on the frame;

a straddle-type seat supported by the frame including a main seat portion for a driver and a secondary seat portion, rearward of the main portion, for a passenger; and

a steering member connected to the frame comprising a handlebar for steering at least one of the wheels,

wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, a combined center of gravity of the ATV, with the driver sitting in a standard riding position on the main seat portion and the passenger sitting in a standard riding position on the secondary seat portion, is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 22 inches.

2. The ATV of claim 1, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 23 inches.

3. The ATV of claim 2 wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 24 inches.

4. An ATV comprising:

a frame;

only four wheels suspended from the frame, at least one of which is a front wheel and at least one of which is a rear wheel, the front wheel defining a front axis and the rear wheel defining a rear axis;

a power unit for driving at least one of the wheels disposed on the frame;

a straddle-type seat supported by the frame including a main seat portion for a driver and a secondary seat portion, rearward of the main portion, for a passenger; and

a steering member connected to the frame comprising a handlebar for steering at least one of the wheels,

wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, a combined center of gravity of the ATV, with the driver sitting in a standard riding position on the main seat portion and the passenger sitting in a standard riding position on the secondary seat portion, is disposed rearwardly of the front axis by at least 21 inches.

5. The ATV of claim 4, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed rearwardly of the front axis by at least 22 inches.

6. The ATV of claim 5, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed rearwardly of the front axis by at least 23 inches.

7. The ATV of claim 6, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed rearwardly of the front axis by between 24 and 45 inches.

8. The ATV of claim 4, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 30 inches.
9. The ATV of claim 8, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 32 inches.
10. The ATV of claim 9, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by at least 33 inches.
11. The ATV of claim 10, wherein the straddle-type seat is constructed and arranged such that, in use, the center of gravity is disposed in front of the rear axis by between 34 and 45 inches.
12. An ATV comprising:
- a frame;
 - only four wheels suspended from the frame, two of the which are rear wheels and two of which are front wheels, the front wheels defining a front axis and the rear wheels defining a rear axis, and each of the wheels includes an ATV-type tire;
 - a power unit for driving at least one of the wheels disposed on the frame;
 - a straddle-type seat supported by the frame including a main seat portion for a driver and a secondary seat portion for the passenger; and
 - a steering member connected to the frame comprising a handlebar for steering at least one of the wheels,
- wherein the ATV has a center of gravity, and

wherein a ratio of a distance between the front axis and the center of gravity to a distance between the center of gravity and the rear axis is greater than 1.05.

13. The ATV of claim 12, wherein the ratio is greater than 1.07.
14. The ATV of claim 13, wherein the ratio is greater than 1.09.
15. The ATV of claim 14, wherein the ratio is greater than 1.1.
16. The ATV of claim 15, wherein the ratio is greater than 1.11.
17. The ATV of claim 12, wherein the ratio is between 1.05 and 2.